

Testimony in Support of H.B. 4111

As a seasonal employee at the Point Mouillee State Game Area, I have seen firsthand the need for volunteers to help maintain the game areas. In the last two years as a seasonal employee, we have put in the hours allowed and still do not complete all the work scheduled for the season.

If non-paid volunteers were allowed to work alongside the DNRE employees, more of the game area would get the improvements and upgrades that are greatly needed.

There are crop fields that didn't get planted and equipment that didn't receive the upkeep needed for the season. If volunteers were allowed to do some of this, more of the other game area maintenance would get completed.

I have offered to help as a volunteer and was told it wasn't allowed even though the DNRE biologist had work I could have helped with that would not otherwise get done.

I would also add to the bill the ability for volunteers to work on the equipment(add and/or maintain to line 25). There are mechanics that could be repairing equipment freeing up workers to be busy in other areas.

Michael Thiede

Michigan Gun Owners